

**USE OF A MELANOMA DIFFERENTIATION ASSOCIATED GENE
(mda 7) FOR REVERSING A CANCEROUS PHENOTYPE**

Abstract of the Disclosure

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This invention provides a method for reversing the cancerous phenotype of a cancer cell by introducing a nucleic acid having the melanoma differentiation associated gene (mda-7) into the cell under conditions that permit the expression of the gene so as to thereby reverse the cancerous phenotype of the cell. This invention also provides a method for reversing the cancerous phenotype of a cancer cell by introducing the gene product of the above-described gene into the cancerous cell so as to thereby reverse the cancerous phenotype of the cell. This invention also provides a pharmaceutical composition having the melanoma differentiation associated gene (mda-7) or the gene product of the melanoma differentiation associated gene (mda-7) effective to reverse the cancerous phenotype of a cancer cell and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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